

October 10, 2001

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Vickie Ybarra, RN, MPH
Charles Chu, DPM
The Honorable Margaret Pageler, JD

RE: Cross-Study of School Entry Requirements

Background and Summary

The State Board of Health approved the "Recommended Children's Preventive Services: Ages Birth through 10 Years" on November 8, 2001. The Children's Health and Well-Being Subcommittee developed the list for the Board to demonstrate what clinical preventive services for children are known to be effective. Our intent was to determine what services all children should receive in a well-child checkup. Our next step was to find ways to assure all children receive those services. We determined a school entry requirement for a well-child checkup, like a requirement for immunizations, could be a successful way to assure young children have at least one well-child checkup.

The Board directed the Children's Health and Well-Being Subcommittee to conduct a study of other states across the nation that had a school entry requirement. On the Board's behalf, the University of Washington's Human Services Policy Center conducted the study. Dr. Rick N. Brandon, director of the Human Services Policy Center, and Gretchen Stahr Breuing, a consultant to the Center, prepared the attached report, "Healthy to Learn: State Requirements for Child Health Exams."

The study shows how 17 states across the nation make sure children receive checkups prior to school entry. The Children's Health and Well-Being Subcommittee presents this report to you and asks the Board to adopt it.

Recommended Board Motion

The State Board of Health adopts the report, “Healthy to Learn: State Requirements for Child Health Exams.”